

The Lexington Intelligencer.

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No. 4

IN ANTE BELLUM DAYS.

Slave Secures Liberty and Works for That of Wife and Children.

SUCCESS CROWNED HIS EFFORTS.

The Lexington Historical Society Should Have New Life Put Into It.

It is a great pity that the Lexington Historical Society has lapsed into a condition of seeming innocuous desuetude and new life should at once be put into the organization. While in active existence this society got together many valuable papers and is now in splendid condition for another beginning of usefulness. Prof. N. E. Hopkins and Mr. John Chamberlain still feel a deep interest and with the proper work an historical society can be organized here that will not only prove beneficial to this community but to the state at large.

Among the many papers now in the archives of this society the attention of the INTELLIGENCER has been attracted to a lot of papers connected with the history of one Nicholas Carper, a colored slave, who, after securing his own freedom in some way, went to work to purchase the freedom of his wife and children. He enlisted the assistance of a minister of the gospel in Ray county and another in St. Louis, to which city he had removed, and what he accomplished is told in the appended bills of sale, which are self explanatory.

HE BUYS HIS WIFE.

Know all men by these presents that I William Jack of the County of Ray and State of Missouri for and in consideration of the sum of Three hundred and fifty dollars to me in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, sold and transferred and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell and transfer to the Reverend Nathaniel B. Dodge of Harmony, Missouri, and the Reverend Salmon Geddings, of the City of St. Louis, both of the State of Missouri, all my right and title to, and interest in a certain female mulatto slave named Milley Carper, aged about thirty-five years, bound as a slave for life by the laws of Missouri; and I do furthermore covenant to and with the said Dodge and Geddings the right to the service of the said mulatto slave named Milly Carper during the term of her natural life and I will well and truly warrant and by these presents forever defend.

Given under my hand with my scratch seal thereto annexed this twenty third day of March in the year of Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty seven.

WILLIAM JACK. [SEAL.]

In presence of John Aull and James Aull.

Memorandum: Nicholas Carper, Husband to above woman, has paid Two hundred Dollars of the above money and so soon as he is able to pay the Balance of One hundred and fifty dollars his wife is to be entirely free.

JOHN AULL. JAMES AULL.

SECURES HIS CHILDREN.

Whereas Nicholas, a free man of colour, has now in the possession of William Jack of Lafayette county Missouri two children by his wife Milley, late a slave, both which children are yet slaves, both which children are yet slaves to said William Jack and whereas said Nicholas is anxious to take his two children with their mother to St. Louis and said William Jack being willing to yield to the paternal solicitude of said Nicholas, he it therefore known to whom all these presents shall come: That it is agreed by and between said Jack and the said Nicholas that said Nicholas shall have permission to take his two said children, one named Neely aged about five years, the other is named Mary aged about twenty months, as far as St. Louis in the State of Missouri and there to retain them in his or their mother's possession for the period of Eighteen months from this date, the said Nicholas being bound to take good and sufficient

care to provide the said children with comfortable food and clothing and to pay attention to the preservation of their health; and if said Nicholas should not return the said children to said Jack at the expiration of the time before stated then he shall be bound and hereby binds himself to pay to Jack the sum of three hundred and twenty dollars current money provided said children should so long live; but if said Nicholas should choose to return said children as before stipulated then said Jack shall pay to said Nicholas the sum of Fifty Dollars current money in consideration of a horse saddle and bridle now delivered to said Jack by said Nicholas.

In testimony of all and singular the stipulations in the foregoing agreement contained the parties have hereto enterhangingly subscribed the names at Lexington this 23rd day of March, 1827.

WILLIAM JACK. [SEAL.]

NICHOLAS CARPER. [SEAL.]

In presence of John Aull.

Recital at Central College.

A very interested and appreciative audience assembled last Monday evening at Central Female college to attend the recital given by the faculty of the School of Music at that time. While expectations of enjoyment were at the highest point these were all fully realized by every one fortunate enough to be present. Every selection on the programme was a musical gem and the beauty and charm of each was enhanced by the rendition given it on this occasion.

Mr. D. F. Conrad, director of the School of Music, opened the programme with the first movement of Beethoven's Waldstein Sonata op. 53, the beauty and sublimity of which were displayed in their fullness. Mr. Conrad's reputation among us is such that it is almost needless to comment specifically upon his exquisite playing on this evening. His perfect accuracy, faultless phrasing and soulful expressiveness were at all times evident, equally in the sublime Sonata of Beethoven and in the magnificent Twelfth Rhapsodie of Liszt. So great was the delight of the audience with the Rhapsodie that, although this number closed the programme, the audience continued its applause until Mr. Conrad reappeared and delighted them again with a very dainty encore.

Miss E. Florence Llewellyn, the voice teacher, is always a favorite with Lexington audiences. Her first appearance on the programme was in a recitative and aria from Verdi's Opera "Un Ballo in Maschera," a very difficult and exquisite selection which was well rendered. Her second number, the sixth on the programme, was a vocal setting by Watson of Ruffa Cavatini, a great favorite among music lovers. To this Mr. E. J. Stark furnished violin obligato very effectively. The voice had much delicate work here as well as some very brilliant passages which were so finely given as to cause the audience to claim an encore, "Love is a Bubble," charmingly rendered by Miss Llewellyn.

Mendelssohn's Capriccio Brillant, B minor, was much enjoyed as rendered by Miss Berien Menefee, whose musical culture and ability have often been demonstrated to us. The orchestral parts to this were played on a second piano by Mr. Conrad.

This was followed by two movements of the Concerto D minor op. 23 by Wieniawski, for violin. Both movements are beautiful and were well played by Mr. E. J. Stark and the vigor and brightness of the Allegro Moderato elicited vigorous applause which would not be hushed until Mr. Stark reappeared, this time playing a lively "Saltarello."

Miss Ada James Ash captivated the audience in her number, which consisted of four selections, all of which were faithfully and artistically rendered. The Gigue in G minor, by Handel, and the Nocturne in G major, by Chopin, however, deserve especial mention. As an accompanist, also Miss Ash showed herself remarkably efficient.

Many beautiful flowers were received by the performers, roses, carnations and lilies of the valley, lending their beauty and fragrance to this very interesting and enjoyable occasion. As Lexingtonians we feel very proud of the musical faculty of Central college and only wish teachers' recitals occurred more frequently.

COWHERD FLAYS COUNTRY'S TRADUCERS

In a Great Speech Defending the Interests of His Congressional District.

SHAFTS OF INTERROGATORY HURLED AT HIM

Met by Ready and Cutting Answers—Ovation Followed Speech—A Great Missourian.

One of the most brilliant speeches made in congress so far this session was that of the Hon. William S. Cowherd when he addressed the house as a whole committee in opposition to a pending bill intended to literally tax oleomargarine out of existence. The brilliant Missourian had not proceeded along the line of his argument far when representatives on the other side of the question in order to soften the effect of his forceful logic, began to hurl at him annoying interrogatories, but he was ever ready with answer that was pointedly, intelligently and cuttlingly given. The speaker, who is very popular in Lafayette county, was frequently interrupted by applause and received an ovation at the conclusion of his remarks. There is no bigger democrat in the

one and two pound packages, put up in such shape as to identify the article, the word 'oleomargarine' stamped in the stuff itself; then it is to be wrapped up in a paper and have the word 'oleomargarine' stamped in large letters on it, and around it all is to be tied the revenue stamp, as is done with a box of cigars. Everybody knows that if that becomes law there will be no more fraudulent sales of oleomargarine. It will go on the market for what it is.

"Now, I contend that if oleomargarine is wholesome, if it is pure, you have no right to legislate it off the table of the man who is unable to pay the butter price for the pure article of butter. Why, sir, what right have you, the congress of the United States, to discriminate between articles of food that are wholesome? What right have you to go into my kitchen or to my table and say I shall or shall not eat this substance or that, or that

the purchasers of that commodity, provided I sell it for what it is and the customer buys it knowing what he gets. It is a part of the inalienable right of a free man that he should have that privilege; and you have no right to take it away from him.

"But gentlemen say that the moment you color this article it becomes a fraud. How does it become a fraud? Is it a fraud to put a little coloring matter in the peas that are canned in order to give them the bright green appearance that makes them attractive? Why, sir, every man knows that the digestibility of any article that goes on your table depends largely upon its appearance. Gentlemen here would deny oleomargarine the right to be colored, even though it is sold as colored oleomargarine.

"You have just as much right to go into the home of a poor man and say to him that he shall not use this metal because it is a fraud on silver; the plain iron fork or spoon is just as wholesome, just as useful as the plated one, and that he must either buy the solid silver or go back to the iron ware. That is identically similar in principle to this bill, which refuses to the poor man the right to set upon his table a substitute for butter which is attractive in appearance, which does not betray his poverty to the neighbor that he may have in to dinner with him, and give his child to carry to school with her an article of food that does not betray her poverty to the sneers and scorn of the children of richer people.

"Let me call your attention to another fact. I believe that these United States are an indissoluble union, not by reason of kinship of the people, not by reason of love for that glorious flag that hangs in its place above your head, not even by the blood of millions of her heroic sons, shed on hundreds of battle fields, but because of one little clause in the constitution that prohibits one state from legislating against the products of another. Now, you are beginning here today to legislate against the products of some states for the benefit of others.

"You are beginning here to break these iron bands that run from state to state, carrying the commerce of one freely into the commerce of the other. You are in this bill for the first time, I believe, in the history of the United States, recognizing the right of one section, if it has sufficient votes, to destroy the commerce of another section because it has not sufficient votes.

"I am here to represent the farmer as I have known him. I represent the farmer who follows the plow in early spring. I represent the farmer who sits for fourteen long hours under the July sun, riding the mower to the monotonous music of the vibrating sickle. I represent the farmer who goes out in the cold days of early winter with chapped and bleeding hands to pull the yellow corn from the stubborn stalk. I represent the farmer who goes in storm and tempest to feed and care for the cattle upon whose lives he is practically dependent for an existence. I represent the farmer who is today the hardest worked and poorest paid man in these United States. I represent the farmer whose day of labor knows no eight-hour limit, but begins with the rising sun and ends too often under the light of the silvery moon. I know the hard conditions under which he lives and labors and the small remuneration he receives for his toil. I deny your right to take from him a single dollar of his hard earned money to give to the creamery and dairy man, who is today the most prosperous individual who carries on any business connected with the soil of the United States.

"In the interest of the true farmer; in the interest of the farmer who farms the land and not the farmer who farms the farmer; in the interest of the farmer who works with the soil and not the farmer who works with the machinery in the creamery; in his interest and in the interest of 20,000,000 of people living today in the cities of the United States of more than 25,000 population, cities that can not depend upon the country butter but must depend upon the creamery and the oleomargarine factory; ay, in the interest of the laboring man, who is dependent on this product for the fats that are necessary in his dietary; in the interest of honest labor, whether on the farm or in the factory, whether in the field or at the forge, I protest against this iniquitous and unjust legislation."



HON. W. S. COWHERD.

congress of the United States than William S. Cowherd and if we mistake not there is a bright political future for him.

The speech in question is too valuable for reproduction in full, but we take excerpts from this great argument which will be interesting to our readers. In part Mr. Cowherd said:

"There are two measures before this committee. One of them might properly be said to be a bill to suppress fraud, and the other might very properly be called a bill to suppress an American industry. Every man in this house knows that some oleomargarine is sold in imitation of butter.

"The fraud in the sale is not by the manufacturer, who never violates the law; not by the wholesaler, who always sells in a stamped tub; but by the retailer, who takes it back to his ice box or back room and sets down his tub of 20, 30 or 40 pounds of oleomargarine, and sometimes when a customer comes there and asks for butter, he dishes it up, puts it on a plate and sells it to him. I am for legislation to prevent that fraud.

"All who have investigated know that if the substitute (flavored by the speaker) is adopted, hereafter oleomargarine is to be manufactured in

I shall not have the privilege of buying it prepared for the table in such a way as to render it attractive?

"I deny the right of congress to make any such legislation. I am not going to deny it on constitutional grounds. I understand too well that in these later days the constitution is an old fashioned instrument that has no place in our discussion on this floor, and I understand too well that in these times of a shifting majority of one" he would have bold man indeed who would attempt to prophesy what would be the fate of any legislation when it reached the court of last resort. I remember, however, that that court once said that "the power to tax is the power to destroy;" that it once said:

"To lay with one hand the power of the law on the property of the citizen and with the other to bestow upon favored individuals to aid private enterprise and build up private fortunes from the lawful robbery because it is done under the guise of law and is called taxation."

"I do not want to stultify myself by attempting to deny that oleomargarine is colored, just as white butter is colored, so that it may closely imitate the yellow butter that is preferred in the market—the best butter of commerce. And I stand here to deny the right of congress to refuse to allow me to place upon the market any wholesome product of food in the shape that will be most attractive to

COUNTY COURT PROCEEDINGS

Criminal Cost Debt of Lafayette County Wiped Out.

SCHOOL MONEYS ORDERED COLLECTED

Road Commissioners Appointed in a Number of Districts—Miscellaneous.

The county court was in session all last week and did not adjourn until Saturday afternoon. While considerable routine business was transacted there was not a great volume of sufficient interest for publication.

One of the most important actions taken by the court was that of providing for the payment of all criminal costs which had accumulated in Lafayette county, mostly prior to May 1, 1899. A warrant was ordered drawn for \$7,754.63, which amount is sufficient to wipe out the debt. The money has been turned over to Criminal Clerk Campbell for payment to the parties to whom it is due. In Lafayette as in other counties of the state this question of criminal costs has been and still is a vexatious one, and the present court is to be congratulated on management that paved the way to ridding the county of this annoying debt. It can be depended on by the people that so far as in his power lay Horace Blackwell, the efficient county attorney, will keep down criminal costs in the future.

Assessments of railroad and telegraph property in the county were fixed by the court—that is, as to the mileage, buildings on the rights-of-way and local property of the railroads. The question of taxing franchises and rolling stock is left to be fixed by the state board of equalization. On railroad property in the county the total assessed valuation is fixed as follows: Chicago & Alton, \$567,270; Lexington branch of the Missouri Pacific, \$544,000; Boonville branch of the Missouri Pacific, \$199,324; Higginsville Switch company, \$9,390; Western Union Telegraph company, including wires, poles, instruments, etc., \$25,315. Making a grand total of \$1,345,299.

The following road commissioners were appointed for districts numbered as follows the name of the appointee: B. F. Feagan, 1; J. D. Masterson, 2; Gustave Wagner, 3; Herman Borgfrede, 4; William Heins, 5; Henry Woehrs, 6; W. B. Taggart, 7; Wm. H. Bruns, 8; S. P. Beall, 9; Conrad Schmidt, 10; J. H. Rudekohl, 11; W. Ernstmeyer, 12; Henry Corbin, James H. Cather, 13; Gus Ritter, 14; Herman Feith, 15; Carl Schaeffer, 16; R. F. Warren, W. F. Shamel, 17; E. H. Handley, 18; Max Lyons, 19; Ed. Powell, 20; Max Lyons, 21; Charles Mulhearn, 22; G. Z. Darnell, M. T. Slusher, 23; W. H. White, 24; J. T. Phlegar, 25; F. W. Scheuchter, 26; H. H. Anderson, P. W. Atkinson, 27; M. T. Boone, 28; John Sanders, 29; Ed. S. Butt, 30; Thomas Jones, 31; G. W. Johnson, 32; Joel Ewing, 33; J. H. Sanders, 34; E. O. Rex, 35; John C. Vanmeter, 36; J. C. Martin, 37; T. W. Gott, 38; C. Y. Ford, 39; E. M. Thomas, 40; Charles Hoffman, 41; Albert Hayne, 42; Geo. W. Null, 43; Ben Suddath, 44; T. L. Ferguson, 45; James McDonald, 46; R. E. Livesay, 47.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In the matter of the petition of Geo. W. Colkit and others, petitioners for new road, petitioners are ordered to deposit with the county treasurer \$150 by April 1 and the commissioner ordered out to make survey and report.

The commissioner was also ordered out in the road matter of W. S. Anderson with instructions to make survey; also in the matter of vacating a road petitioned for by George W. Blucher and others.

In the matter of the road petition of W. H. Phillips report of the commissioners to assess damages was received and approved and the road ordered opened at the expense of petitioners.

In the matter of the road petition of Henry Duening and others an entry of dismissal was made.

Report of the county commissioner in the matter of the road petitioned for by J. S. Shackelford was received and the road ordered opened.

The annual settlements of County Clerk Thornton and Recorder Tyree were approved.

School mortgage bonds of B. W. Jefferson and John B. Finnell were ordered satisfied.

School loan in the sum of \$800 was granted to William Kempe.